

Calculate Percent Accuracy

Here's how to calculate the accuracy of the reading.

Task	Process	Example
1. Count the total running words (RW). Do not include titles. Tally the number of errors (E). Write the ratio at the bottom of the recording sheet.	$\frac{E}{RW}$	E = 12 RW = 134 Ratio: $\frac{12}{134}$
2. Convert to a ratio with a numerator of one.	Divide the denominator by the numerator.	$134 \div 12 = 11.16$ round off the number to 11
3. Record the information on the bottom of the running record sheet.	Record in the form 1:x .	1:11
4. Determine the percent accuracy. Fill in this number on the front of the recording sheet.	Check the conversion table to find the percent accuracy for the ratio. Round down to make a conservative determination.	1:11 round down to 1:10 90% accuracy.
Percent Accuracy Conversion Table		
Error Ratio	Percent Accuracy	
1:200	99.5	Easy 95-100% correct: The book level is suitable for independent work and reading practice.
1:100	99	
1:50	98	
1:35	97	
1:25	96	
1:20	95	
1:17	94	Instructional 90-94% correct: The book level is suitable for guided reading instruction.
1:14	93	
1:13	92	
1:12	91	
1:10	90	
1:9	89	Difficult 80-89% correct: Book level is generally too difficult and the student may lose control of meaning and structure. Below 90% likely a poor book choice.
1:8	88	
1:7	86	
1:6	83	
1:5	80	
1:4	75	
1:3	66	
1:2	50	